

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 19, 2008, claims 31-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No.: 6,276,934 to Rackoz ("Rackoz") in view of U.S. Publication No.: 20020118729 to Spoonhower et al. ("Spoonhower"). Claim 34 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Rackoz and Spoonhower in further view of U.S. Patent No.: 5,951,284 to Lake ("Lake"). Lastly, claims 7-11, 16-18 and 25-30 have been allowed.

As an initial matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 7-11, 16-18 and 25-30.

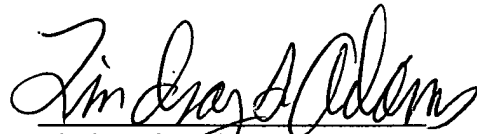
Turning to claims 31-34, Applicant has amended claims 31-32 and 34 to be directed to an intraoral camera system "*adapted* to allow[] the patient to view, regardless of their body position, the area in the patient's mouth which the patient cannot see with only a single reflector." Claim 33 has been canceled to incorporate into amended claim 31. In addition, claims 31-32 and 34 have been amended to recite that the "dental mirror" is "*adapted* to be held by one hand of the doctor or dentist and to be inserted into the patient's mouth to observe the area that the patient cannot directly view with the reflector." Likewise, claims 31-32 and 34 have been amended to recite that the "hand mirror shaped LCD monitor" is "*adapted* to be held by the patient so that the patient may move the hand mirror shaped LCD monitor to any desired position without moving his or her head when viewing the video image." Support for these amendments can be found in the published specification at paragraphs [0001] to [0005], [0028], and [0033]. No new matter is being added.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above-cited prior art does not teach or suggest an intraoral with a combination of a dental mirror and LCD monitor adapted as presently claimed.

For example, claims 31-32 and 34 require a “hand mirror shaped LCD monitor” that is adapted to allow the patient to view the displayed image in any position without having to move his or her head. While the above-combination teaches a generic hand held monitor, such a monitor does not provide a patient with the ease of use as the presently claimed “hand mirror shape monitor.” The monitor disclosed by Spoonhower is not easily graspable and is certainly not be able to move easily from one hand to another without the patient having to move their head. Thus, the above-cited combination fails to teach or suggest an intraoral camera system with the ease of use for the patient as is presently claimed. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicant does not believe that fees are due other than the requisite fees for the RCE and the petition for a three (3) month extension of time. If any additional fees are due, please charge such sums to Deposit Account: 50-1145.

Respectfully submitted,



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